level of 20-5 per cent, and its decline did not set in till 1900; but then it was so marked that by 1931 the infantile death-rate had sunk to 8-4 per cent. In Budapest, in 1875, it still amounted to 28-4, but by 1900 had dropped to 16*3.

In so far as reliable statistical data are available, during the nineteenth century the infantile mortality of the Jews was almost invariably lower than that of the non-Jews. In Prussia, during the years 1822-1837, 13-3 per cent of the Jewish children died in their first year, as against 18 per cent with the non-Jews. In Russia, in 1896-1897, the infantile mortality amounted to 13 per cent among the Jews, but to 26-8 among the total population. Besides progress in medicine and hygiene, the decline of the birth-rate, which set in earlier with the Jews than the 'non-Jews, was the chief cause of the further reduction of the infantile mortality. The smaller the number of children, the better-the care which the parents can afford to give them, and the greater their chance of survival. Only in the last thirty years, with the rapid decline of the birth-rate, the infantile death-rate has dropped also with the non-Jews, but even so everywhere it still exceeds that of the Jews, as is shown in Table X. In Berlin, Bavaria, Latvia, and Lithuania, the Jewish infantile death-rate has sunk to the record level of the Scandinavian States and New Zealand—about 3 to

5 per cent.
But while in the past the smaller infantile mortality among the Jews in Central and Eastern Europe stood in a sharp contrast to that of the non-Jews, and gave rise to the legend about a peculiarly strong vitality of Jewish children, it now appears that the Jews had^merely anticipated their neighbours. What may, however, to some extent give Jewish children a better chance of survival, is the great care they receive from their mothers. If in. an industrial town like Lodz, the Jewish infantile mortality is relatively high (14*6 per cent), this suggests extremely unhygienic conditions and great poverty among the Jewish population;
still, the fact that, in 1929, with the Jews only 9-7 per cent